Paul Haddad

Paul Haddad (May 20, 1963 – April 11, 2020) was a Canadian actor. He was the original voice actor of Leon S. Kennedy in the *Resident Evil* franchise, voicing the character in *Resident Evil 2* (1998). Other voice over roles included Uncle Arthur on *Babar* (1989–1991), Quicksilver and Arkon on *X-Men* (1992–1996), Luke Talbot on *Monster Force* (1994), the title character on *Free Willy* (1994–1995), and Lefty on *John Callahan's Quads!* (2000–2002).

Early life

Haddad was born in Birmingham, England on May 20, 1963. He was the eldest of three children. Haddad attended McGill University, where he studied acting. In 1988, he graduated from the National Theatre School of Canada, in Montreal, Quebec.

Career

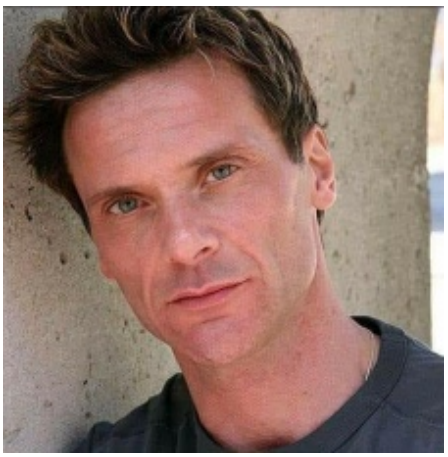
Haddad performed in the Stratford Theatre Festival in Stratford, Ontario for two years.[1] In the 1996 festival, he played Bassanio in *The Merchant of Venice*.[2]

Haddad voiced Uncle Arthur on *Babar* (1989–1991) and Shrimplips on *Medabots* (2001–2002).

Haddad's voice roles include *Quads*, *Mythic Warriors*, *Cyberchase*, *The Adventures of Super Mario Bros. 3*, *Super Mario World*, *Little Bear*, *The Magic School Bus*, *RoboRoach*, *Pearlie*, *Franny's Feet*, *The Adventures of Tintin* and *Rupert*.

In 1995, Haddad played Gerald Schulze, Edward Schulze's (Matt Frewer) brother who runs the local market in the DisneyToon Studios animated comedy film *BugHunt*.

He voiced Willy Stop in the animated series *Rescue Heroes*.

Paul Haddad	
	
Born	May 20, 1963 Birmingham, England, UK
Died	April 11, 2020 (aged 56) Toronto, Ontario, Canada
Nationality	Canadian
Education	McGill University
Occupation	Actor
Years active	1986–2009, 2019

Haddad was best known for voicing Leon S. Kennedy in the video game *Resident Evil 2*. Due to the popularity of his voice work in *Resident Evil 2*, Haddad was asked to voice a character in the similarly themed *Daymare: 1998*.[3] Haddad's role in *Resident Evil 2* led to him becoming an "icon" among the game's fanbase according to *Gamasutra*.[4]

Personal life and death

Haddad resided in Toronto, Canada until his death. His hobbies included film editing (often with videos of his dog) and assisting with actor demos. He revealed during a YouTube livestream he had stage three throat cancer and had a tumor growing on one of his vocal cords; however, the tumor was surgically removed, altering his voice in the process.

In February 2020, Haddad set up a GoFundMe requesting $2,000 for his third neurosurgery. He detailed his personal and financial struggles in a complementing Facebook post, which revealed he had obsessive–compulsive disorder (OCD) for most of his life. Although Haddad had been managing the disorder through a deep brain stimulation (DBS) device, the device was removed in 2019 due to an infection, causing his battle with OCD to resume.[5]

Two months after creating the fundraiser, Haddad died on April 11, 2020, at the age of 56. The cause of death was not publicly disclosed.[6]

Filmography

Film

Year	Title	Role	Notes
1987	*Tomorrow's a Killer*	Lover	
1995	*BugHunt*	Gerald Schulze (voice)	
1996	*An Angel for Christmas*	Additional Voices (voice)	Direct-to-video
1999	*Babar: King of the Elephants*	Elevator Boy, Tailor (voices)[7]	
2000	*Franklin and the Green Knight: The Movie*	Mr. Fox (voice)[7]	Direct-to-video
2002	*Rolie Polie Olie: The Great Defender of Fun*	Willy Jollie (voice)[7]	Direct-to-video
2003	*Back to School with Franklin*	Mr. Fox (voice)	Direct-to-video
2003	*Rolie Polie Olie: The Baby Bot Chase*	Gloomius Maximus, Wally Jolly (voices)[7]	Direct-to-video Replacing James Woods
2004	*Childstar*	Wedge Executive	

Television

Year	Title	Role	Notes
1986	*Night Heat*	Julian Tobias	Episode: "Fighting Back"
1987	*American Playhouse*	The Triumphant Egghead	Episode: "The Prodigious Hickey"
1989–1991	*Babar*	Uncle Arthur (voice)	39 episodes
1990	*The Adventures of Super Mario Bros. 3*	Additional Voices (voice)	26 episodes
1991	*MacGyver*	Nikolai Rostov	Episode: "Jerico Games"
1992–1996	*X-Men*	Quicksilver/Pietro Maximoff, Arkon, Kiyoek, Various (voices)	17 episodes
1993	*E.N.G.*	Roger Quigley	Episode: "Love and Marriage"
1994	*Free Willy*	Willy the Orca (voice)[7]	21 episodes
1996	*Any Mother's Son*	John Miller	TV film
1998–2000	*Flying Rhino Junior High*	Buford, Mr. Needlenose (voices)	26 episodes
1999	*Mythic Warriors*	Theseus, Fisherman (voices)[7]	Episode: "Theseus and the Minotaur"
2000–2002	*John Callahan's Quads!*	Lefty (voice)	26 episodes
2001–2002	*Medabots*	Shrimplips, Calamari, Various (voices)	Seasons: 1–2
2001–2002	*Rescue Heroes*	Willy Stop (voice)	Episodes: "Mayhem in the Mist" and "Blackout"
2002–2007	*American Bikers*	Sheldon "Rabbit" Gilpin (voice)	52 episodes
2002–2004	*Rolie Polie Olie*	Gloomius Maximus (voice)	Season 6 only
2004–2010	*Franny's Feet*	Additional Voices (voice)	11 episodes
2009	*Murdoch Mysteries*	Morris Bailey	Episode: "Snakes and Ladders"

Video games

Year	Title	Role	Notes
1998	*Resident Evil 2*	Leon S. Kennedy	
2019	*Daymare: 1998*	Cleaner[8]	Final role

References

1. "Paul Haddad" (https://www.imdb.com/name/nm0352664/) . *IMDB*. Retrieved April 10, 2020.
2. Newell, Alex (Winter 1997). "The Stratford, Ontario, Festival 1996: A Canadian's Overview". *Shakespeare Bulletin*. **15** (1): 23. JSTOR 26352743 (https://www.jstor.org/stable/26352743) .
3. Destructive Creations. "DAYMARE: 1998 – Paul Haddad has something to say" (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yTxoY2B_JXQ) . *YouTube*. Retrieved April 11, 2020.
4. Kerr, Chris (April 17, 2020). "Obituary: Resident Evil 2 voice actor Paul Haddad has passed away" (https://www.gamasutra.com/view/news/361421/Obituary_Resident_Evil_2_voice_actor_Paul_Haddad_has_passed_away.php) . *Gamasutra*. Retrieved April 9, 2021.
5. Keegan, October (17 April 2020). "Original Leon Voice Performer Paul Haddad Passes Away At 56" (https://www.relyonhorror.com/latest-news/original-leon-voice-performer-paul-haddad-passes-away-at-56/) . *Rely on Horror*. Retrieved 22 January 2021.
6. "Paul Haddad Obituary" (https://www.legacy.com/obituaries/thestar/obituary.aspx?n=paul-haddad&pid=196002795) . *thestar.com*. Retrieved April 18, 2020.
7. "Paul Haddad (visual voices guide)" (https://www.behindthevoiceactors.com/Paul-Haddad/) . *behindthevoiceactors.com*. Retrieved 27 August 2019. A green check mark indicates that a role has been confirmed using a screenshot (or collage of screenshots) of a title's list of voice actors and their respective characters found in its opening and/or closing credits and/or other reliable sources of information.
8. Lada, Jenni (17 April 2020). "Paul Haddad, the Original Resident Evil 2 Leon Voice Actor, Has Died" (https://www.siliconera.com/paul-haddad-the-original-resident-evil-2-leon-voice-actor-has-died/) . *Siliconera*. Retrieved 15 February 2021.

External links

- Paul Haddad (https://www.imdb.com/name/nm0352664/) at IMDb

- Paul Haddad (https://www.animenewsnetwork.com/encyclopedia/people.php?id=4004) at Anime News Network's encyclopedia